Daily Update – June 30, 2020

Ministry of Health update

In a joint statement, Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, reported 12 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C., bringing the total number of cases to 2,916 since the pandemic began. Of those, 981 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health region. There are 152 active cases of COVID-19 in the province and 2,590 people who tested positive have recovered. The number of people in hospitals throughout B.C. is 18, including four people in critical care. Five long-term, assisted living and acute care facilities continue to have active outbreaks in B.C.

Visits in long-term care

Earlier today, Dr. Henry announced that updated provincial requirements will ease the current visitor restrictions for long-term care homes and seniors’ assisted living residences with clear guidance on required precautions. Each facility must develop written plans outlining how they will meet the new visitation requirements, which include:

- Visitation in individual facilities can resume once they have their required written safety plan in place.
- Once in place, residents will be able to have one designated visitor in appropriate designated spaces.
- Designated spaces will include outdoor or indoor locations; and
- All visitors must bring and appropriately wear masks.
- Essential visitor restrictions remain in place for other health-care settings.

In addition, personal service providers, including hairdressers, will be able to come into long-term care and seniors’ assisted living facilities if they have completed a WorkSafeBC safety plan.

Big spaces and few faces on Canada Day

Dr. Henry reminded the public to follow the rules for safe social interactions on Canada Day, by limiting interactions and keeping bubbles small, maintaining a safe distance from others and staying home if you are feeling ill. She recommended people take part in one of many virtual celebrations being planned and other fun ways to safely connect with friends and family. By doing our part, we can continue to keep our curve flat and protect our communities and those we care for most.

Travel restrictions still in place

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) reminded all travellers, ahead of the July 1 (Canada) and July 4 (United States) holidays, that travel restrictions are still in place at all Canadian international border crossings. These measures remain in place until at least July 21. All travel of an optional or discretionary
nature, including tourism, recreation and entertainment, is covered by these measures across all ports of entry in all modes of transportation: land, marine, air and rail.

**Testing**

Anyone in the VCH region with cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms, however mild, can now be assessed for and get a COVID-19 test. Contact your physician or nurse practitioner’s office, or a local community collection centre to arrange for a test. Phone numbers and locations of collection centre can be found by visiting: [http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing) or by calling 8-1-1. In Vancouver, the City Centre and REACH urgent and primary care centres can provide testing as well as the St. Vincent’s drive-up location at 4875 Heather Street. The Richmond Assessment Centre is located at 6820 Gilbert Road, in the parking lot of the Richmond Tennis Club. On the North Shore, testing is available at the North Vancouver Urgent and Primary Care Centre. If you think you need testing, please call ahead before visiting your doctor, urgent and primary care center or health clinic.

VCH Medical Health Officers, our provincial partners and the Public Health Agency of Canada continue to actively monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. To protect yourself while out in public, wash your hands frequently and maintain social distance. For more information on COVID-19, please visit [www.vch.ca/COVID19](http://www.vch.ca/COVID19).

For more information and latest updates on COVID-19, follow the BC Centre for Disease Control on Twitter [@CDCofBC](https://twitter.com/CDCofBC) or visit the website: [http://www.bccdc.ca/](http://www.bccdc.ca/).